

NORTH FORK SMITH RIVER DAM

Fact Sheet

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

- ◆ Located on the North Fork of the Smith River in Meagher County
- ◆ 10 miles East of White Sulphur Springs
- ◆ Owned by DNRC & managed by SWPB
- ◆ Operated by Smith River WUA since 1936
- ◆ Project consists of:
 - ◆ Earthen Embankment Dam, 84 feet high, 1,300 feet long.
 - ◆ Labyrinth weir spillway with excavated rock channel.
 - ◆ Gated, reinforced concrete outlet conduit
 - ◆ 5 foot by 5 foot reinforced concrete, modified horseshoe shaped conduit with manually operated 54-inch diameter emergency slide gate and 54- inch butterfly operating gate.
- ◆ Original construction completed in 1936
- ◆ Normal storage is 11,500 acre-feet, covering 335 surface acres.
- ◆ 29 water users have 40 contracts and irrigate approximately 11,000 acres with one canal (Southside Canal; 13.2 miles long)
- ◆ The dam is a “high hazard” structure, which means that its failure could cause loss of life. Numerous roads, bridges, and utilities are located in the flood plain. White Sulphur Springs, (pop. 1,018) would begin flooding approximately 3 hours after failure of the dam.

PROJECT DEFICIENCIES

- ◆ The dam was rehabilitated in 2006. The rehabilitation brings the dam into full compliance with current safety standards.

REHABILITATION

The rehabilitation included the following:

- ◆ A new structural two-cycle labyrinth weir concrete spillway
- ◆ Raising and leveling the dam crest
- ◆ Replacing the outlet works terminal structure with a new structure.
- ◆ Enlarged the rock spillway channel
- ◆ Installed new drains for seepage control

Project Cost: \$825,000



New Spillway



Upstream Face



Downstream Face



New Outlet

